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BOOK REVIEWS

The Law of the Sea. By G. W. T. Omond. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1916. pp. 80. \$1.00.

This small volume is a historical sketch of the progress by rule and practice in some of the usages and laws of war upon the seas from 1756 and the times of the first Armed Neutrality until the earlier years of the present war. The language of the book is nontechnical, and in the main the work can be considered as being historically correct. It is not, however, colorless in its findings, as the writer evidently belongs to the school of Bowles and considers the adoption by England of the Declaration of Paris a blunder and a surrender of the right exercised with great effect by the British Navy in the Napoleonic Wars as well as during the period preceding that era.

The author, in his interesting narrative, shows himself, as an Englishman, to be in opposition to an extension of the rights and privileges of neutrals, especially as to exemptions granted by the Declaration of Paris to enemy goods under neutral flags.

The great extension of the doctrine of contrabrand and in the enumeration of articles of that nature made in recent years lessens, of course, the value of such exemption when under a neutral flag, and when to this is added the drastic restrictions of trade with an enemy, the consequent value of the Declaration of Paris to neutrals is materially lessened, as well as to the trade of the weaker naval belligerent.

The Declaration of Paris was the result of the Crimean War, the outbreak of which found the principal western allies, Great Britain and France, with different principles and practice as to laws of capture at sea. Great Britain practiced the traditional rule found in the *Consolato del Mare*, which made enemy ships or cargoes subject to capture, while neutral ships and cargoes were free. France, on the other hand, followed a different doctrine by which neutral cargoes on board of enemy ships, in addition to enemy cargoes on board of neutral ships, were subject to capture.

The allied Powers, however, in their war against Russia, agreed to carry on the war by making enemy cargo free in neutral ships, as well as neutral goods on the ships of the enemy. This agreement naturally resulted at the end of the war in the Declaration of Paris.

The great sea power of the Powers allied against Russia, in view of the great possibilities shown in our own Civil War and in the present great war, was almost literally squandered in the Baltic. As the author of the book under review says,

So much consideration was shown to the neutrals that on all hands they engaged in trade for the benefit of Russia. . . . Prussian and Greek merchants did a roaring trade by exporting raw materials from Russia in exchange for supplies which they needed; and the Government (of England) was accused with good reason of prolonging the war by the immunity granted to the neutral merchantmen.

Military preponderance on land naturally chafes at sea restriction and sea power, and hence there is raised a false cry of "freedom of the seas" without an offer of a diminution of military power on land in return.

This check (sea power) to military domination has upon the whole tended toward a freer world and a saner democracy. It would be a sad day for us all if unchecked military power on land could have a similar license on the high seas.

C. H. STOCKTON.

The Philippines. By Charles Burke Elliott. 2 vols. Indianapolis: Bobbs, Merrill Company. 1917. pp. 541, 541. \$9 net.

After the smoke from the guns of the American fleet at Manila had vanished, revealing the deadly blow dealt to the Spanish flotilla, the last page of the closing chapter of the history of the Spanish rule in the Philippine Islands was written, and with the dawn of the new day a new era began in the history of the United States and of the Islands of the Far East. And so the world assumed it. Columbia, to quote the words of the author, "was then full grown, and Dewey's battle in Manila Bay was regarded as a sort of a national coming-out party. Henceforth she was to be considered in society." In coming out, however, Columbia did not adopt the usual attitude of the blushing and timid debutante, but rather that of the fully developed matron, ready to bear a self-imposed burden and to take up the responsibility of a national policy from which a majority of the thoughtful men of